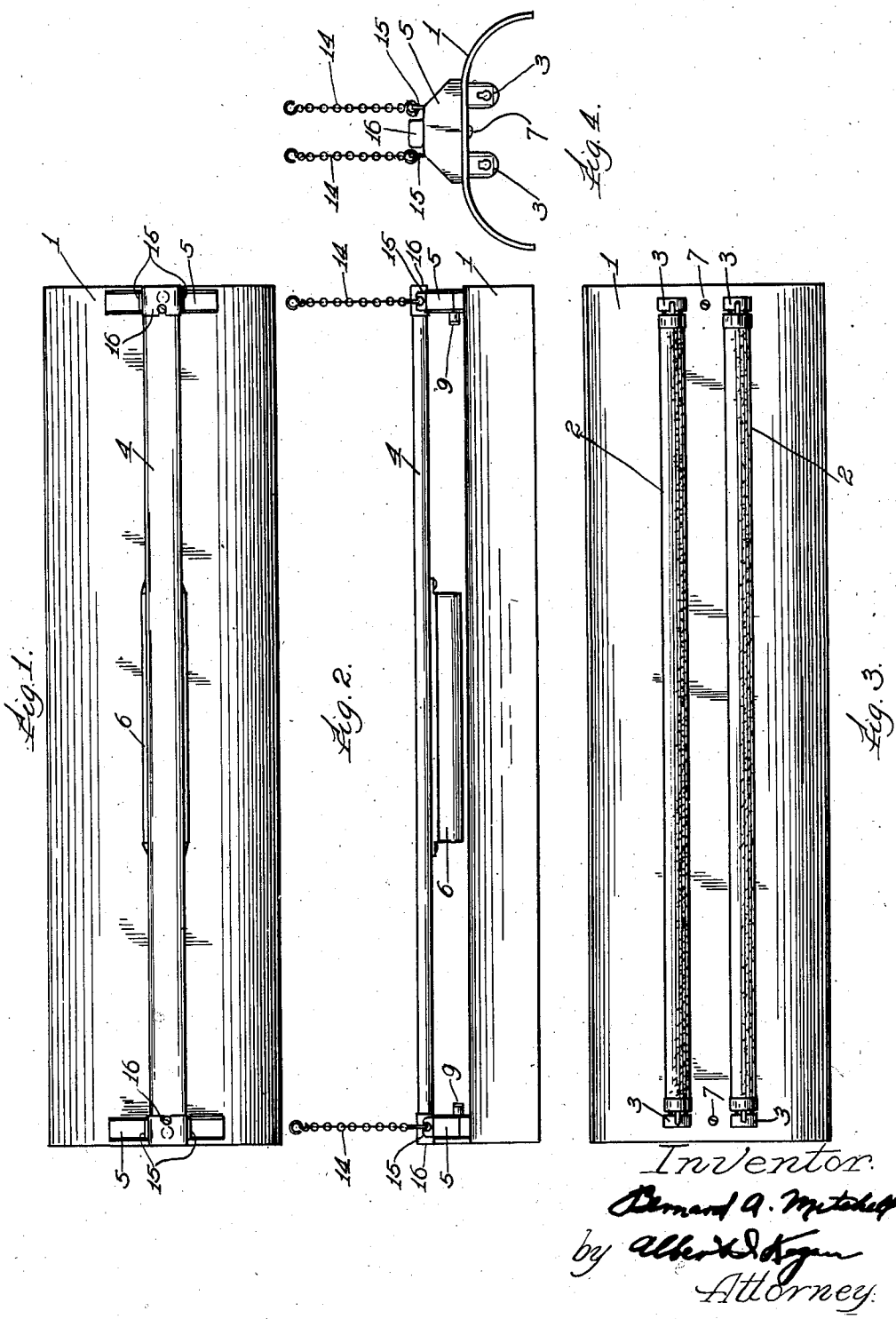
May 22, 1945. B. A. MITCHELL 2,376,801

LIGHTING FIXTURE

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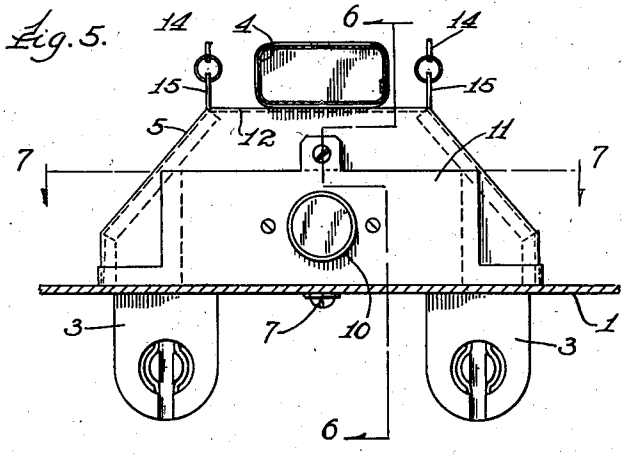


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LIGHTING FIXTURE

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Fig. 5.



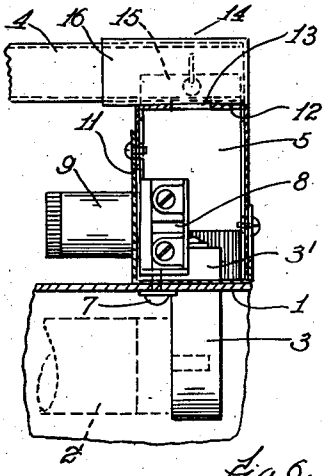


Fig. 6.

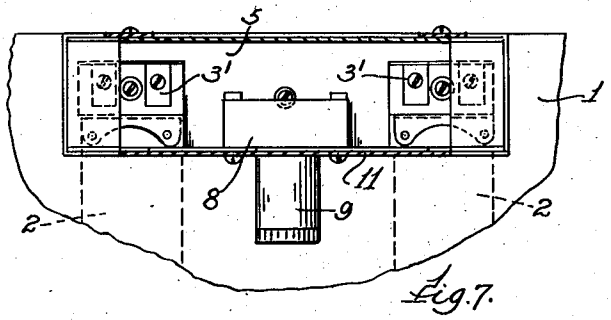


Fig. 7.

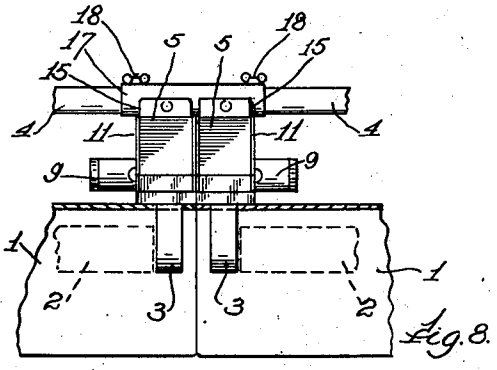


Fig. 8.

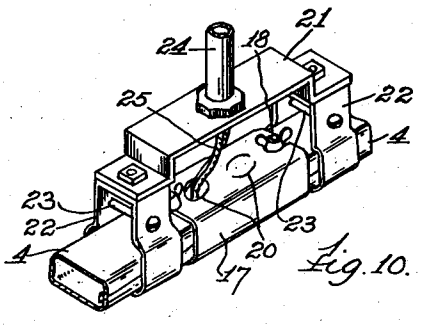


Fig. 10.

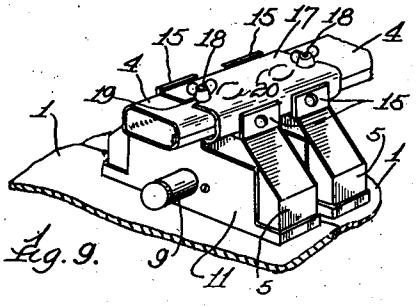


Fig. 9.

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LIGHTING FIXTURE

Bernard A. Mitchell, Chicago, Ill.

Application April 10, 1943, Serial No. 482,649

3 Claims. (Cl. 240—78)

This invention relates to lighting fixtures and has particular reference to fluorescent tube lighting fixtures.

An object of the invention is the provision of a simple and efficient construction of a fluorescent tube lighting fixture that is economical to manufacture and install, and may be serviced very easily.

Another object of the invention is to provide an improved construction of a fluorescent tube lighting fixture using a reflector made of non-metallic material.

A further object of the invention is to provide a fluorescent tube lighting fixture in which the wireway channel is arranged apart from the reflector of the fixture.

A still further object of the invention is the provision of improved means for combining a plurality of fluorescent tube lighting units in a continuous row.

With these and still other objects in view which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention consists of certain novel features of construction, arrangement and combination of parts and elements, described in detail in the following specification and pointed out in the appended claims; it being understood that many and varied changes may be made without departing from the scope of the claims or the spirit of the invention.

In the accompanying drawings, showing by way of example embodiments of the invention,

Fig. 1 is a top view of a fixture embodying the invention;

Fig. 2 is a side elevational view,

Fig. 3 a bottom view, and

Fig. 4 an end elevational view of the fixture shown in Fig. 1.

Fig. 5 is an end elevation, to a larger scale and partly in section, of the fixture as seen from the inner side thereof;

Fig. 6 is a sectional view taken along the line 6—6 of Fig. 5;

Fig. 7 is a sectional view taken along the line 7—7 of Fig. 5;

Fig. 8 shows in a side elevational view, partly in section, the ends of two coupled fixture units;

Fig. 9 is a perspective view of the parts shown in Fig. 8; and

Fig. 10 is a perspective view of a modification.

One fixture unit is shown as a whole in Figs. 1, 2, 3 and 4. An elongated reflector 1, preferably made of non-metallic material, e. g. plastics, accommodates one or more (in the example shown, two) fluorescent tubes 2 which are carried by tube holders 3 situated at the ends of the reflector 1. Arranged above the reflector 1 and spaced therefrom by means of parts 5 is a tubular member 4 which is of substantially flat rectangular cross section and of approximately the same length as the reflector 1. The tubular member 4 serves as a wireway channel and has secured to the lower side of it a casing 6 which contains the usual ballast means. The casing 6 preferably takes up part only of the space left between the wireway channel 4 and the reflector 1.

The parts 5 which support the wireway channel 4 and are attached thereto are in the form of box-like housings secured by means of screws 7 or the like to the ends of the reflector 1. Extending into the lower part of the housing 5 are the upper parts 3' of the tube holders 3 bearing the fittings for the wire connections of these tube holders. Also within the housing 5 a socket 8 may be provided adapted to receive the usual starter cartridge 9 which may be inserted into the starter socket 8 through an opening 10 in a removable side wall 11 of the housing 5. The top wall 12 of the housing 5 has an opening 13 so as to permit the wires (not shown) coming from the parts 3' of the tube holders 3 and from the starter sockets 8 to pass into the tubular wireway channel 4. The wireway channel 4 may be closed at its ends by means of caps 16.

The fixture unit shown in Figs. 1 to 4 may be attached to the ceiling, to a so-called messenger cable, to a girder, or the like by any one of the mounting or hanging devices well known in connection with fluorescent tube lighting fixtures; in the drawing chains 14 being shown which engage extensions 15 of the housings 5.

Instead of using a fixture unit as shown in Figs. 1 to 4 individually, a plurality of such units may be combined very easily and conveniently to form a continuous row of such units. For this purpose coupling members are used each engaging the ends of two adjacent wireway channels which in this case need no end caps. As shown in Figs. 8 and 9, a sleeve 17 is provided having a cross section fitting the outer surface of the flat rectangular wireway channels 4 and into this sleeve 17 there are inserted the ends of two such channels 4 belonging to two fixture units. The coupling sleeve 17 is secured to the ends of both wireway channels 4 by means of wing screws 18 engaging slots 19 which are open towards the edges of the coupling sleeve 17. Two holes 20 in the top side of the sleeve 17 corresponding with holes (not shown) in the top side of the two wireway chan-

nels 4 may be provided for the passage of wires where this is necessary.

Additionally to the coupling sleeve 17, or replacing it as a coupling member, a bracket 21 as shown in Fig. 10 may be used, embracing by means of two clamps 22 the ends of the wireway channels 4 of two fixture units arranged end to end. The clamps 22 may be fastened or loosened by means of screw bolts 23. Into the center of the bracket 21 a tubing 24 may be screwed for the passage of wires 25 coming out of one of the holes 20 of the wireway channels 4 (or of the sleeve 17 where such a sleeve is used). The tubing 24 may at the same time serve as a suspending means for the fixture or separate suspending means may be secured to the bracket 21. In both cases the extensions 15 of the parts 5, as shown e. g. in Fig. 9, may be dispensed with.

What I claim is:

1. Fluorescent tube lighting comprising a plurality of units arranged in a continuous row and having each an elongated reflector, ballast means, a tubular wireway channel, and supporting means for holding said wireway channel in spaced relationship to said reflector, said ballast means being affixed to said tubular wireway between the latter and said reflector; and coupling means for holding together the ends of adjacent wireway channels.

2. Fluorescent tube lighting comprising a plurality of units arranged in a continuous row and having each an elongated reflector, tube holders at the ends of the unit, ballast means, a tubular wire-way channel of substantially flat rectangular cross-section, and hollow supporting means for holding said wireway channel in spaced relationship to said reflector, starter sockets within at least one of said supporting means, said supporting means being adapted to accommodate wires passing from said tube holders and said starter sockets into said tubular wireway channel, said ballast means being affixed to said tubular wireway between the latter and said reflector; and coupling means for holding together the ends of adjacent units, each of said coupling means comprising a sleeve adapted to receive the ends of two adjacent wireway channels.

3. A fluorescent lighting fixture comprising an elongated reflector member, tube holders at the ends of the fixture, a tubular wireway channel in spaced relationship to said reflector, hollow supporting members extending between the reflector and the tubular wireway channel adjacent the ends thereof, ballast means, said ballast means being affixed to the wireway channel in the space between the channel and the reflector, said hollow supporting members being adapted to accommodate wires passing from said tube holders into said tubular wireway channel.

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